

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**The Maryland Department of Natural Resources**  
**Fishing and Boating Services**  
***2018 Commercial Shark Catch Limits — Effective 2/24/18***

The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 08.02.22.04B, in order to comply with species management through the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Coastal Sharks, announces a new catch limit for large coastal sharks. Effective 12:01 a.m. February 24, 2018, the catch limit is 25 large coastal sharks per vessel per trip. Large coastal sharks includes all of the sharks in the aggregated large coastal and hammerhead management groups defined in COMAR 08.02.22.03A(6) and (7). The species in the two management groups include: Silky; Tiger; Blacktip; Spinner; Bull; Lemon; Nurse; Scalloped hammerhead; Great hammerhead; and Smooth hammerhead.

The National Marine Fisheries Service anticipates in-season trip limit modifications based on harvest. If modifications are made, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Service will follow with modifications for state waters. A new public notice will be issued if modifications are made.

Mark J. Belton  
Secretary of Natural Resources